

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 01199 041601Z

67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 CEA-02

AGR-20 DRC-01 /196 W

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R 041522Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5948

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS DUBLIN 1199

3.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EEC, EI

SUBJ: IRISH REACT SHARPLY TO EC FARM DECISION

1. DUBLIN'S PRESS MORNING SEPTEMBER 4 GAVE FRONT PAGE COVERAGE TO FAILURE E.E.C. FARM MINISTERS TO TAKE DECISION AT THEIR SEPTEMBER 3 MEETING ON URGENT QUESTIONS AFFECTING FARM INCOMES. PAPERS QUOTED IRISH FARMERS' ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT T.J. MAHER AS SAYING, "THE COUNCIL IS MERELY POURING PETROL ON THE FLAMES. FARMERS IN IRELAND AND ELSEWHERE SIMPLY CANNOT BE CONTAINED." IRISH MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE CLINTON WAS REPORTEDLY OUTSPOKEN IN HIS CRITICISM OF THE BRITISH APPROACH AND SPECIFICALLY OF AGRICULTURE MINISTER PEART. CLINTON, ACCORDING TO PRESS, SAID,
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"THE UK HAS ATTENDED THIS MEETING WITH THE SOLE PURPOSE OF

POSTPONING ANY DECISIONS." PAPERS SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF DEMONSTRATIONS BY IRISH FARMERS SIMILAR TO DEMONSTRATIONS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE ON CONTINENT.

2. WHILE IRISH AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS ARE DISAPPOINTED AT FARM MINISTERS' POSTPONEMENT OF DECISION ON MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE FARM PRICE PROBLEMS, THEY ARE PARTICULARLY AGITATED AT REPORT THAT IRELAND IS WILLING TO CONSIDER PARTIAL DEVALUATION OF IRISH AGRICULTURAL POUND ("GREEN POUND") OF NINE AND ONE HALF PERCENT, RATHER THAN 15 PERCENT REQUESTED BY GOI. WHILE MANY IN IRELAND ARGUE THAT THE GREEN POUND WOULD BE NO MORE THAN A TEMPORARY PALLIATIVE AND WOULD CLEARLY HAVE ADVERSE EFFECT OF RAISING COST OF LIVING (INFLATION ALREADY RUNNING AT 16 PERCENT THIS YEAR), GOI FEELS IT MUST PRESS FOR GREEN POUND. PRESSURE IS GENERATED BY LARGE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR CAUGHT BETWEEN RISING INPUT COSTS AND RELATIVELY LOW RETURNS AS WELL AS EVER-GROWING BEEF SURPLUS THAT IS CAUSING WIDESPREAD CONCERN.
MOORE

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NNN

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